

What is claimed is:

1. A data distribution method comprising the steps of:

downloading data from a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

extracting from the downloaded data information indicating a link between data in two databases, a detailed description of each data, and sequence data for homology search, which together constitute an index; and

distributing the thus extracted index.

2. A data search method comprising the steps of:

downloading data from a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

extracting from the downloaded data information indicating links between data in two databases;

receiving a start database name, a target database name, and a data ID in the start database, which together constitute a search key;

acquiring a data ID of the target database by following those links among the extracted links between data that match the predetermined order of a link between a plurality of databases, while referring to information indicating the predetermined order of the link between the databases and using the received data ID in the start database as a start point; and

displaying the thus acquired data ID of the target database.

3. A data search method comprising the steps of:

downloading data from a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

extracting from the downloaded data information indicating links between data in two databases and sequence data for homology search;

receiving a start database name, a target database name, and input

sequence data, which together constitute a search key;

conducting a homology search for homology-search sequence data in the start database, using the input sequence data;

acquiring a corresponding data ID of the target database by following those links among the extracted links between data that match the predetermined order of a link between databases, while referring to information indicating the predetermined order of the link between the databases and using as a start point the data ID in the start database that has been acquired by the homology search; and

displaying the thus acquired data ID of the target database.

4. A data search method comprising the steps of:

preparing index data that is a collection of information indicating links between data in two databases, based on a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

preparing a table defining the order of the links between the plurality of databases;

receiving a start database name, a target database name, and a data ID of the start database, which together constitute a search key;

acquiring a corresponding data ID in the target database by following those links among the links between data that match the order of the links between the databases, while using as a start point the data ID in the start database that has been received; and

displaying the acquired data ID of the target database.

5. A data search method comprising the steps of:

preparing index data that is a collection of information indicating links between two databases and sequence data for homology search, based on a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

preparing a table defining the order of links between the plurality of databases;

receiving a start database name, a target database name, and input sequence data, which together constitute a search key;

conducting a homology search for homology-search sequence data in the start database, using the input sequence data;

acquiring a data ID of the target database by following those links among the links between the data that match the order of the links between the plurality of databases, using as a start point the data ID in the start database that has been acquired by the homology search; and

displaying the acquired data ID of the target database.

6. A data search system comprising:

index data that is a collection of information indicating links between data in two databases that is gathered from a plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored;

a table defining the order of the links between the plurality of databases;

an input portion for receiving a start database name, a target database name, and a data ID in the start database, which together constitute a search key;

a search portion for acquiring a corresponding data ID of the target database by following those links among the links between data that match the order of the links between the databases, while using as a start point the data ID in the start database that has been received; and

a display portion for displaying the acquired data ID of the target database.

7. A data search system comprising:

index data that is a collection of sequence data for homology search and information indicating links between data in two databases that is gathered from a

plurality of databases in which information about biological substances is stored; a table defining the order of the links between the plurality of databases; an input portion for receiving a start database name, a target database name, and input sequence data, which together constitute a search key; a first search portion for conducting a homology search for homology-search sequence data in the start database, using the input sequence data; a second search portion for acquiring a corresponding data ID of the target database by following those links among the links between data that match the order of the links between the plurality of databases, using as a start point the data ID in the start database that has been acquired by homology search; and a display portion for displaying the acquired data ID of the target database.